

Include Thoughts and Feelings

Minilesson

Mentor STACK 

TEACHING POINT Expressing personal thoughts and feelings is one of the essential features of a personal narrative.

- Authors reveal their feelings by directly stating their emotions, or they “show” the reader how they feel.
- Authors reveal their thoughts, telling readers how they reacted to the situation.

MODEL AND PRACTICE Explain that writers often show how their characters feel through their actions. Say: ***A writer can tell the reader that a character is sad. However, showing their sadness creates a better picture for the reader and makes it more interesting to read.***

Display the following sentences and have students read them:

I was sad.

Tears rolled down my face as I watched my best friend drive off in the car.

Ask: ***Which of these two sentences helps you better understand the situation? Sometimes just stating an emotion works. Sometimes showing the emotion is more powerful. As you read personal narratives, think about the thoughts and feelings narrators share. Notice how they describe their feelings and show how they feel.***

Distribute p. 27 from the *Resource Download Center*. Have students rewrite the sentences. When students have finished, have them share their rewrites with a partner. Have students discuss how they achieved the emotion of the characters.

Independent Writing

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If students have started their personal narratives, have them make any changes based on today’s minilesson. Point out that a personal narrative reveals the narrator’s thoughts and feelings.

Share Back

Ask volunteers to share what they learned about showing emotions in their narratives. Invite the class to share examples of how narrators show, not tell, their emotions.